



HARWOOD GOLF CLUB WOMEN'S SECTION

Minutes of the Women's Committee Meeting held on 11th August 2026

Present:	Captain	Gillian Crofts
	President	Dawn Eastland
	Captain Elect	Carol Brooking
	President Elect	Lorna Hart
	IP Captain	Kate Knox
	Secretary	Lesley Hardman
	Treasurer	Anne Oakes
	Janet Ayres, Kathy Hardman, Elaine Henderson	

The meeting started at 7:00 pm

		Action
1. Welcome	Captain welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2. Apologies	None.	
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting	Proposed as a correct record by Carol Brooking and seconded by Lorna Hart.	
4. Matters Arising:		
(a) Updating locker room posters	CB - Outdated posters have been removed.	
(b) Improving our course	No action has been taken on extending the hazard tape on wooden surfaces. GC to refer this back again to Management.	GC
(c) Exchange Opportunity	CB has confirmed the date of the exchange with Silverdale GC as 1 st September 2027.	
(d) England Golf Women's Charter	Carol Brooking, as the Women's Charter Champion, along with Kathy Hardman and Anne Oakes, is helping to draw up the club's Charter commitments. This will be a work in progress and reported on as and when appropriate.	
(e) Committee List & Newsletter	The list of committee members is now displayed in the locker room and the new Newsletter's 1 st edition was circulated on 2 nd August. Some very positive feedback has been received. It was suggested that a hyper-link to the club's website be included in the next edition.	
(f) Memento trophies for major (board & officials) competitions	It was agreed that memento trophies will be introduced for board competitions and the Women's Championship. £100 will be ringfenced each year against the cost of buying and engraving the mementos, but it is not expected that all of this amount will be used. It was suggested that there needs to be a clearer explanation next year about the Championship and Nicholson trophy, which are linked and run at the same time.	
(g) Funding for girls from disadvantaged backgrounds	We don't currently have any girls from disadvantaged backgrounds, however, Access Sport (who work with Disability Sport, giving underprivileged children the opportunity to get into sport and sports-related activities) would like to come on board next year to help financially. CB is due to meet with them and will report back next meeting. Enquiries had also been made by EH and GC into how local cricket and football clubs get funding, and those contacted referred to lottery funding, the Football Federation and local council support for specific projects.	CB
(h) 2027 Women's Taster Programme	Next year, to relieve CB of some of the workload in her captaincy year, it was suggested that another volunteer from the WS takes on the role of heading up the taster programme, helped and supported by a small team. CB has specific ladies in mind and will contact them to ask.	CB

	The structure and paperwork is already in place thanks to previous work by JA and KK. The provisional date for next year's taster day is Saturday 20th March. This will be promoted on the website, FaceBook and by word of mouth. No physical posters will be necessary. CB will continue to work with Driving Girls Golf next year, helped by Dale and school staff.	
(i) TUAL	TUAL is no longer on BRS, however several ladies do book to play social rounds on Mondays. It was agreed that this should be encouraged and promoted, as it has a huge benefit socially, relationally and is great for developing golfing skills, particularly for less experienced players. LeH to email WS to encourage people to continue to book Monday TTs on BRS independently.	LeH
(j) Entry requirements for Women's Championship	GC has now taken over the action to consult with players who are likely to compete in the scratch rounds to get their views, also possibly involving another experienced member of the WS who could offer advice. The Committee will then consider the feedback and whether the rules need further adjustment for 2027.	GC
(k) Golf Empire – iGolfers and our Open Competitions	It was agreed at the last meeting that we won't accept entries from iGolfers and the information on Golf Empire has been updated accordingly for the Women's Open in September.	
(l) May Open 2027	Date for 2027 agreed: 14 th May. JA has notified Geoff Ward so that there will be no clash with the Seniors' Open. Dale has reserved the tee. The date has been noted in next year's provisional fixture list. LeH to notify Geoff Ward/Golf Empire in September when details of the event are finalised.	LeH
(m) Joan's 90th Birthday	Joan's birthday is 12 th January 2027 so Thursday 14 th January, lunch time, was suggested. GC is to ask Joan if the date is agreeable. KK, EH, DE and CB will form a working group to plan the celebration. (Although this is actioned, it will no longer need to be in 'matters arising' in future meetings.)	GC KK, EH, DE, CB
(n) Prize Money Suggestion	GC had received an email from Jayne Murray, suggesting prize money could be reduced in order that the WS made more profit at Opens. It was agreed at the last meeting that we do not currently need to increase our income in this way, and offering generous prizes was a way to increase participation in the event. GC has notified Jayne accordingly.	
5. Treasurer's Report	The opening bank balance for July was £3,571.45 with the cash in hand amounting to £1,783.62 making the total monies £5,355.07. The income for July was £1,164 for Captain's Invitation Day Buffet, Entries for the Challenge Bowl, Contribution from Harwood Golf Club, Donations for Refreshments & Captain's Invitation Day raffle. The expenditure for July totalled £1,628.36 for Captain's Invitation Day prizes, Ribbons for the Canopy, Flowers & Card, Gratuities for Captain's Invitation Day, Top Table Drinks, Entries for the Challenge Bowl, Captain's Invitation Day Refreshments, Lunch & Evening Buffet and Flowers & Napkins. Total assets amounted to £4,890.71 with the Net Assets amounting to £3,269.71 after taking into account the ringfenced money for Canopy Hire, income from the Children's Christmas party, May Open Raffle, Balance of monies from the Picnic, Refund from Davyhulme GC, Captain's Fizz in the Park and Captain's Invitation Day Raffle. After taking into account all of the Income & Expenditure for the Captain's Invitation Day, there is a deficit of £131.	

	Anne was thanked for her report.															
6. Competition Secretary's Report	Harwood Women's Championships The Women's Championships were played over 2 days on 01 and 08 July. Results were: <table><tr><td>Champion</td><td>Runner Up</td><td>Semi Finalist</td><td>Semi Finalist</td></tr><tr><td>Jenny Murphy</td><td>Amelia Taylor</td><td>Anne Oakes</td><td>Judith Simms</td></tr></table> <table><tr><td>Nicholson Overall Winner</td><td>R1 winner</td><td>R2 winner</td></tr><tr><td>Katherine Hardman</td><td>Marion Nolan</td><td>Susan Selby</td></tr></table> Board Prizes The following Board Prizes have also been played: Millenium Trophy Women's Trophy Ladies Shield Bolton Challenge Bowl The Challenge Bowl was played this year at Brightmet GC on Monday 03/04 August. Several Harwood players successfully made it through to the 2nd day of competition with Lesley Hardman triumphing winning the Challenge Bowl. Other Updates: - Gillian Rogers and Elaine Smith play in the final of the Aussie Spoons at Woodhall Spa on Monday 10 August. - Lorraine Chamberlin plays in the finals for the Race to Woodhall Spa on Wednesday 12 August. - The Bell Cup team have progressed to the quarter finals which are being played on Friday 21 August on a neutral course (Westhoughton GC) against Bramhall. - Daily Mail Foursomes knockout is now underway and will be completed before the end of the season. Entries are to be submitted in January 2027. - Kathryn Nuttall qualified for the Frances Smith Trophy which will be played on 18 August at Lytham Green GC.	Champion	Runner Up	Semi Finalist	Semi Finalist	Jenny Murphy	Amelia Taylor	Anne Oakes	Judith Simms	Nicholson Overall Winner	R1 winner	R2 winner	Katherine Hardman	Marion Nolan	Susan Selby	
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7. Competition Secretary Role	HR has said she will provide a list of tasks needing to be undertaken for the next meeting. There have been no offers or enquiries about taking over the role. We need a new competition secretary: it was suggested that this person needs to have experience and knowledge of the different organisations and competitions, but they will not be expected to do everything themselves. Based on the list that HR will draw up and the comp sec job description, a team will be set up to help the comp sec with different practical tasks. Individuals were suggested for the lead role and the team and will be approached by GC.	HR 														

	place for booking early, which went towards competition prizes. There was a very small amount of money left over, and it was suggested and agreed that this be contributed to Captain Gillian's charity.	
15. Date of Next Meeting	Monday 7 th September	

The meeting ended at 8:55 pm